LADY GAGA
FAME MONS

Holiday Gift Guide

The Gateway compiles a list of gifts sure to please everyone on your list.

ENTERTAINMENT
[PAGE 4]

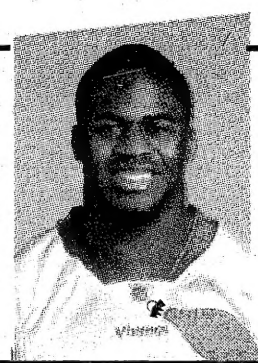
gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

Kenny Onatolu

Former UNO linebacker is on the road to Super Bowl XLIV.

SPORTS
[PAGE 10]



VOLUME 08 | ISSUE 27

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 11, 2009

UNO gathers in memory of gerontology professor

MIKE BELL
CONTRIBUTOR

Even now, Falvey Charles "Chuck" Powell can draw a crowd.

More than a hundred former students, family and friends celebrated Powell's life on Dec. 6 at UNO's Thompson Alumni Center at 7 p.m. Powell passed away Oct. 23 at the age of 88. He was a professor for the department of gerontology from 1973 to 2007 and was director of the program in 1978. In 2001, he received a named scholarship and in 1995 he participated in the White House Conferences on Aging.

But Powell's academic achievements barely graze the surface of his career. Powell enlisted in the Navy in 1940 and served in World War II. His 30-year military career led him to Europe where he aided the Berlin Airlift.

During the Korean War, he flew his cargo plane filled with wounded Marines to safety after taking off from a cratered and debris-ridden runway in Japan. For this rescue he was awarded the Air Medal.

He was qualified to fly 27 different types of craft and his service led him to Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. By the time he retired in 1971, he had logged more than 18,000 hours in flight time.

George Madsen and his wife were longtime friends of Powell and his family. Madsen's wife even helped Powell build a completely temperature controlled room in his home for wine storage.

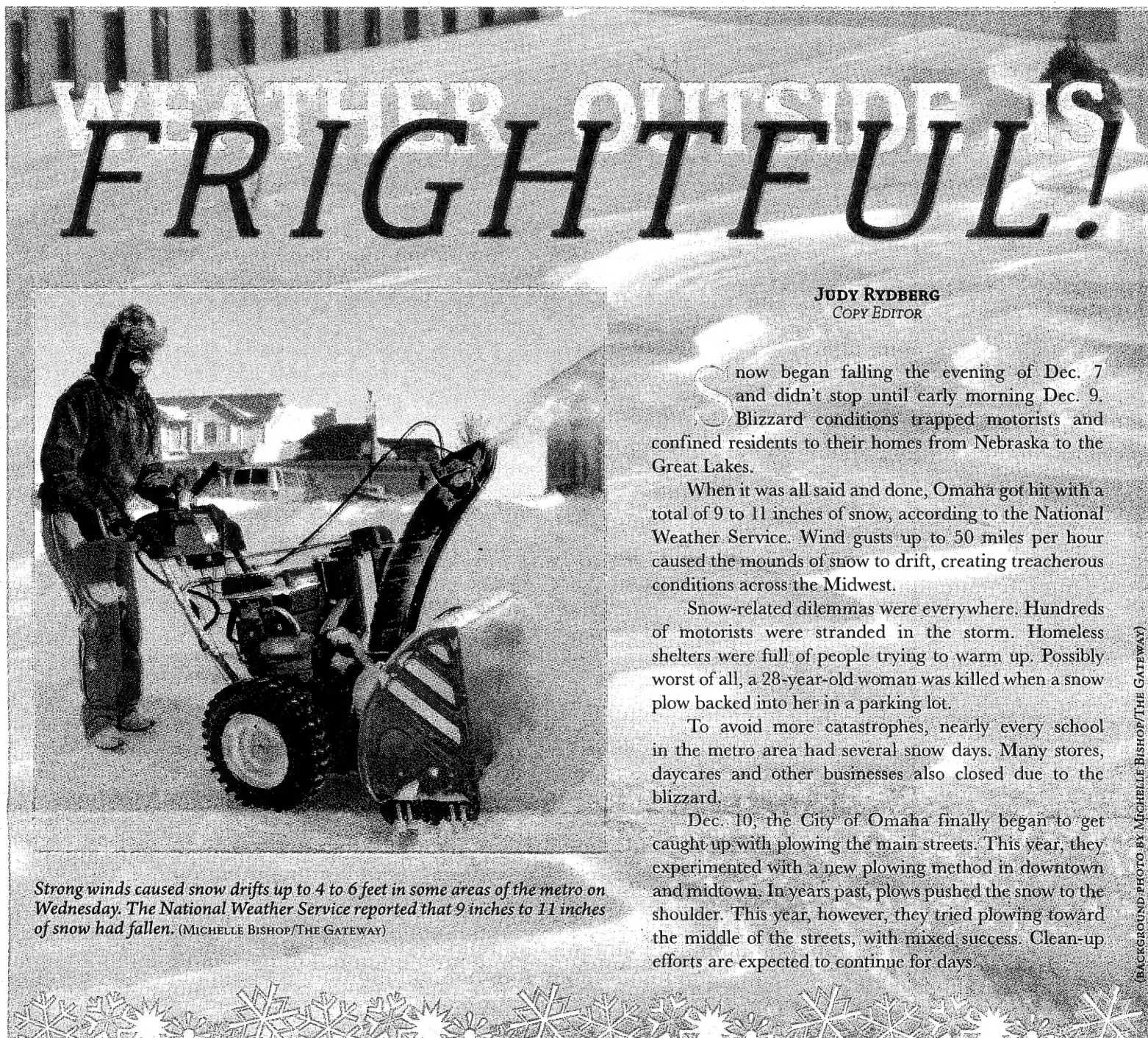
"A fine gentleman he was [with] exquisite taste in wine," Madsen said. "He loved his wine. And the missions he flew into Berlin speak as a very fine credit for him."

At the memorial service, tables covered with photos of Powell and his family were placed along the wall in the Alumni Center. His numerous medals and a button imprinted with his catchphrase, "bah humbug," were in front of a photo depicting him receiving his Air Medal.

Powell's son Charles told stories about his father and the morals he passed down to his children, speaking of responsibility for one's actions and the consequences that follow.

"He was a great father, a great leader and a great citizen," he said. "I would watch him wake up every morning as a Navy officer and shine his shoes. At the age of 8, I began shining my own shoes like he did."

SEE MEMORIAL: PAGE 7



Strong winds caused snow drifts up to 4 to 6 feet in some areas of the metro on Wednesday. The National Weather Service reported that 9 inches to 11 inches of snow had fallen. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

JUDY RYDBERG
COPY EDITOR

Snow began falling the evening of Dec. 7 and didn't stop until early morning Dec. 9. Blizzard conditions trapped motorists and confined residents to their homes from Nebraska to the Great Lakes.

When it was all said and done, Omaha got hit with a total of 9 to 11 inches of snow, according to the National Weather Service. Wind gusts up to 50 miles per hour caused the mounds of snow to drift, creating treacherous conditions across the Midwest.

Snow-related dilemmas were everywhere. Hundreds of motorists were stranded in the storm. Homeless shelters were full of people trying to warm up. Possibly worst of all, a 28-year-old woman was killed when a snow plow backed into her in a parking lot.

To avoid more catastrophes, nearly every school in the metro area had several snow days. Many stores, daycares and other businesses also closed due to the blizzard.

Dec. 10, the City of Omaha finally began to get caught up with plowing the main streets. This year, they experimented with a new plowing method in downtown and midtown. In years past, plows pushed the snow to the shoulder. This year, however, they tried plowing toward the middle of the streets, with mixed success. Clean-up efforts are expected to continue for days.

BACKGROUND PHOTO BY MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY

UNMC ice rink provides inexpensive winter fun

MICHELLE BISHOP
PHOTO EDITOR

UNMC unveiled a new public outdoor ice skating rink on Dec. 4. The 5,500-square-foot rink was made possible by a gift from Omaha philanthropists Ruth and Bill Scott.

"This will be a tremendous addition to the winter recreation scene in Omaha," UNMC Chancellor Harold Maurer said. "It will provide countless hours of fun for the entire community."

Maurer came up with the idea based on

his memories of the ice rink at the Rockefeller Center while growing up in New York City.

The ice rink, which is open daily through Feb. 28, is part of UNMC's student plaza, located between 40th and 42nd Streets and between Dewey Avenue and Emile Street.

UNO junior Lisa Bruckner worked the opening weekend of the ice rink. She said the student and facility turnout was good and feedback was positive.

"We have a lot of people coming in here who don't have anywhere else to go or anything else to do," Bruckner said. "It's

a nice family thing that everybody can do together. It's not really expensive like some other places."

The rink contains 3.3 miles of 1-inch plastic piping that holds approximately 1,100 gallons of a glycol solution, cooling the concrete slab to 20 degrees. The UNMC logo adorns center ice.

Christopher Payne and Naomi Chasse were two members of the Omaha community to skate on Saturday afternoon.

"It's really great for the community," Chasse said. "It gives the young kids something to do other than just hang out. It gives them something constructive to do."

Chasse, who usually skates at Benson Ice Arena, persuaded Payne to go ice skating for the first time.

"I thought I was going to come for 20 minutes and want to leave, but I still want to keep skating," Payne said. "It's been an hour already."

During the warmer months, the ice rink will be a place for students to study and a setting for concerts, theater productions and other events.

A tent on the west side houses admissions, skate rentals and the ice rink manager.

Three large heaters are located outside the tent to keep people warm and three outdoor restrooms are located north of the rink.

"The ice will be maintained every day to provide optimal skating conditions," said Deb

SEE RINK: PAGE 7



The University of Nebraska Medical Center unveiled a new public outdoor ice skating rink on Dec. 4. The rink will be open from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 8 p.m. Sundays. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

Editor-in-Chief
• Andrea Ciurej

News Editor
• Emily Johnson

Entertainment Editor
• Andrea Barbe

Sports Editor
• Zach Seasted

Opinion & Literary Editor
• Erik Peterson

Photo Editor
• Michelle Bishop

Copy Editor
• Judy Rydberg

Assistant Section Editor
• Mitchell Warren

Production Manager
• Breanna Hayden

Art Director
• Zach Maharaj

Systems Manager
• Keelan Stewart

Advertising Manager
• Bre Gehrken

Advertising Production
• Sarah Waller

Classifieds Manager
• Elisa Born

Circulation Manager
• Jon Green

Publications Manager
• Carol Buffington

Adviser
• Chris Burbach

Staff Writers
• Holly Fredrickson
• Jared Spence

Editorial Cartoonist
• Kirby Kaufman

The Gateway is published by the University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Publications Committee on Tuesdays and Fridays during the fall and spring semesters and on Tuesdays during the summer sessions.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the Advertising Manager. Other inquiries and complaints should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief. Copies of the Student Publications Committee inquiry and complaint policy are available at the Gateway's office, located on the first floor of the Milo Bail Student Center.

The Gateway is funded as follows: 70 percent advertising revenue, 30 percent student fees allocated by student government.

Copyright 2008. All rights reserved. No material here may be reproduced without the permission of the Editor in Chief.

One per student, 25 cents each.

MBSC Room 115
6001 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68182-0197

Front Desk
554-2470

Advertising
554-2494

Editor
554-2352

Fax
554-2735

U.S. retailers expect weak holiday sales again

KEVIN G. HALL
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON — Most economists agree the nation's deep recession is over, but that isn't bringing much cheer to retailers. For the second consecutive holiday season, they're bracing for declining sales.

"We're expecting [holiday] sales to be down 1 percent this year, which, believe it or not, represents a stabilizing of the [retail] industry," said Scott Krugman, a spokesman for the National Retail Federation, the trade group for major retail chains.

Many retailers suffered through a year-over-year drop in sales of at least 3 percent last holiday season, so this year isn't expected to be as bad. That's a sign of how bad the U.S. economy has been: Less bad now passes as good news for retailers.

"They're not looking for anything great," said William Dunkelberg, the chief economist for the National Federation of Independent Business, whose members include smaller, stand-alone retailers. "We still have more firms that think that over the next few months their retail sales volume will fall rather than rise. That's not a good sign."

Retailers have slashed costs and reduced inventory throughout the year and enter the peak holiday season lean, both in staffing and in the stockroom. Still, the aggressive cost cutting, inventory reduction and staff downsizing won't mean anything unless customers open their wallets.

"This year retailers went into the season with their eyes wide open. Consumers are still hibernating, we have double-digit unemployment, housing is still very much in flux and consumers will need a lot of incentive to come out and shop," Krugman said.

Retailers, he said, plan to provide lots of incentives on the day after Thanksgiving, or "Black Friday," the traditional start of holiday shopping. To create buzz, retailers are said to be preparing "door buster" specials that range from \$3 small appliances, high-definition televisions for less than \$300 and GPS devices for automobiles for less than \$60.

"We know this season's Black Friday will be more promotional than ever," Mike Boylson, the executive vice president and chief marketing officer of J.C. Penney & Co., said in a statement that accompanied third-quarter earnings Nov. 13.

Even with the promotional push, J.C. Penney told analysts that the company expects sales in the final three months of this year to drop 3 percent to 5 percent below last year's final quarter.

Toys R Us stores are opening their doors seconds after midnight on Black Friday in a bid to provide shoppers with access to deals "five hours earlier than ever before," the company announced last Thursday, adding that it would offer 70 "door busters" in the very first hour of Black Friday.

For all the hype, Black Friday is just one day in the holiday season. Surveys of consumers confirm why retailers expect such a challenging year. In its annual survey of holiday intentions, the National Retail Federation found in late October that 84.2 percent of Americans expect to spend less this holiday season. They're expected to spend an average of \$682.74, a drop of 3.2 percent over last year.

Given such stark realities, any surprise this season would be on the upside, since consumers have spent the past 18 months

SEE SALES: PAGE 4

Student groups encourage sustainable lifestyle

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

UNO student organizations are taking preliminary steps to promote the next biggest issue surfacing in the United States after health care — clean energy.

Campus organizations are teaming up with Repower America, a campaign launched by the Alliance for Climate Protection, to "galvanize the American public around a bold, new clean energy plan and a revitalized national energy infrastructure."

Scott and Eric Williams, community organizers for the campaign, have paired with the UNO College Democrats and the Environmental Club to organize seminars and movie showings relative to clean energy and sustainability efforts.

The Environmental Club, for example, is co-hosting a free movie showing of "Prairie Wind: Nebraska's Wind Energy Harvest" on Dec. 15 from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the College of Public Affairs and Community Service's Collaborating Commons. The documentary explores how local communities could benefit from Nebraska harnessing wind energy, how farmers and ranchers could use wind energy in their operations and how landowners could reap economic benefits from wind structures.

Following the documentary is a panel discussion featuring Perry Stoner, the documentary's producer; Neb. Sen. Ken Haar, District 21; Robert Byrnes, President of the Nebraska Renewable Energy Association; and Paul Vonderfecht, Omaha small-business owner, Energy Smart Company.

Ranked sixth in the nation for wind-energy potential, Nebraska has the ability to save native households \$800 a year by 2030 with its wind-energy producing capabilities and biomass resources, according to Repower America's Web site, repoweramerica.org.

Scott Williams said taking advantage of Nebraska's wind-energy potential is one step to keeping carbon dioxide emissions under wraps and Earth's rapid change under control.

"The wind is basically right here in the middle of the country," Williams said. "If we took advantage of the wind energy here...and they only operated at 20 percent of their operating capacity...we would have 40 times the electricity produced in the country today."

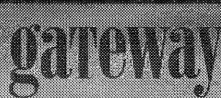
Andrew Burdic, vice president of UNO's Environmental Club, said recycling habits and adapting to a sustainable lifestyle isn't enough.

"It's definitely a good thing to do," Burdic said. "I personally feel that we haven't really done enough as a city."



The College Democrats held similar events in November with a clean energy lecture by Scott Williams and a showing of the documentary "The 11th Hour," narrated by actor Leonardo DiCaprio.

Some members of the organization also promoted clean energy in 30-second video clips used for the Repower America Wall. The online video wall features the voices of

SEE ENVIRONMENT: PAGE 4



**INVITES YOU AND A GUEST
TO ENTER TO WIN TICKETS TO
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS MONSTER JAM
BROUGHT TO YOU BY FORD TRUCKS**

**BRING THIS AD TO THE GATEWAY OFFICES
FIRST FLOOR OF MBSC
STARTING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15 TO ENTER TO WIN
A COMPLIMENTARY PAIR OF TICKETS**

While supplies last. Passes are available on a first come first served basis. No purchase necessary. One admit-two pass per person. Employees of participating sponsors are not eligible.

www.monsterjamonline.com

AT THE MID-AMERICA CENTER COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA JANUARY 8-10



Crystal Jade

CHINESE, MALAYSIAN, INDIAN, JAPANESE, KOREAN AND THAI



Free Delivery
to Campus.
Min. order \$15

Dine-In Only FREE DINNER
Purchase any regularly priced dinner entree and 2 beverages and receive a 2nd entree of equal or lesser value Free. (up to \$8 Value)
Not valid with other coupons, discounts or specials. Limit one coupon per party, per visit. Exp. 01/31/10

Dine-In Only \$1 OFF
No Coupon Needed. Students get \$1 OFF lunch or dinner entree with student ID.

EVERYDAY
-1/2 Price Martinis -
12 Varieties - \$3 each

SUNDAY
-Family Night-
FREE Soup & Salad
with any Entree

MONDAY
-College Night-
1/2 Appetizers &
Drinks with ID

TUESDAY
-Ladies Night-
1/2 Price Wines &
\$2 Domestic Bottles

7255 Cedar St. (Between Pacific & Center)
398-1688 JadeDinners.com

Endangerment of bees impacts economy

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The cause to a mysterious decline among the bee population is being called "the insect version of AIDS."

Tony Palmer, a butterfly and insects zookeeper at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, said beekeepers witnessed an abrupt population decline in their bee hives in 2006.

"All of the major beekeepers around the nation experienced a 90 percent loss of their colonies and nobody knew why," Palmer said. "They went out and checked the boxes, there were no bees in there – no one knew where the bees went."

Colony Collapse Disorder was the term coined by apiculture specialists to describe this so-called "sudden death" of bees.

The complex and mysterious disorder not only threatens the existence of honey bees but also the food they pollinate – a third of what we eat, according to the Mid-Atlantic Apiculture Research and Extension Consortium's Web site.

Palmer said all pollinators are at risk, including hummingbirds, lizards and bats. Pollinators are essential to nurturing specific plants, including blueberries, squash, strawberries, peppers and tomatoes, he said.

"If they go away, these plants go away," Palmer said, "things that we take for granted and we have on our plates every day and we're just like, 'It's always going to be there.' It's not always going to be there if these things go away."

People would have to transport the pollen themselves, enabling the fertilization and sexual reproduction process in plants.

"Self-pollination would be no fun," Palmer said. "[People would have to] collect flowers, brush the males parts so a majority of the pollen falls off, dry the pollen for a few days, then use a fine brush or feather duster

or something to pollinate the flower's female parts."

Unlike most humans, honey bees and other pollinators work for free.

"Honey bees give \$15 billion annually to the economy," Palmer said. "Hand pollination is estimated to cost approximately \$90 billion annually."

As Colony Collapse Disorder enters a third year of 36 percent honey bee colony losses, the worry is that businesses may also collapse, according to the Mid-Atlantic Apiculture's Web site.

Richard Stasiak, a University of Nebraska at Omaha biology professor, said bees are of commercial value in places like Nebraska.

Haagen-Daz, an ice cream corporation, even relies on honey bees for about half of its all-natural flavors, according to the company's Web site.

"A lot of people make money by raising bees and producing honey and wax and other products," Stasiak said, "but the main thing is that they pollinate crops."

Stasiak said all insects are vital components to the environment.

"If somehow you could come up with some magic chemical and eliminate all insects, it would be terrible," Stasiak said. "The insects are such a large group that they're one of the most ecological components there is."

Mosquitoes, for example, are more purposeful than spreading disease.

"Without those diseases spread by the mosquitoes, you'd have a huge population increase and lots of other animals that would cause damage to the environment," Stasiak said. "It's a big snowball effect and you don't realize that until you actually stop and think what the role of insects are."

Unlike bees, underwater insects serve as a food source for fish, for example.

"Even if you don't like to eat insects, you like to eat fish, well then you depend on those

insects," Stasiak said.

Pesticides, such as DDT, continue to threaten the life span of all insects, Palmer said.

"They've used pesticides just over the top," Palmer said. "Since humans seem to be sitting on top of the food chain, this means bad news for us."

Palmer said disease is another cause of declination, especially for bees.

Nosema is considered one of the most prevalent and economically damaging of honey bee diseases, according to the Bees for Development Web site. It often goes unnoticed because the parasite is invisible to the naked eye and rarely leads to the death of an infected colony.

Nosema apis is a parasite that affects the honey bee population. Nosema bombi is a parasite that affects bumble bees under similar measures.

Bees become infected by swallowing spores from the feces of parasitized members of the colony, according to the Encyclopedic Reference of Parasitology. The spores penetrate the digestive system of honey bees, impairing their ability to digest pollen.

"The bees can't hold food and the colony weakens," Palmer said. "Other secondary parasites – hive beetles, wax moths, feral mites – move in and they have a horrible affect on the hive because they are weakened from this nosema."

Marion Ellis, an entomology professor and extension apiculture specialist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, researches parasites and techniques for reducing populations of mites in bee

hives.

"With all of these diseases and parasites, beekeepers have begun using drugs to suppress those diseases and parasites and without ever having looked at how those things interact," Ellis said. "We're also looking at the interaction of those drugs with pesticides applied to crops that these might encounter when they're foraging."

Ellis currently leads the beekeeping education programs offered through UNL's department of entomology. Ellis also heads the master beekeeping training program and workshops held in Mead, Neb. Ellis and his students work with the Nebraska Beekeepers Association.

Bee education is important, so individuals understand the importance of bees and their sole purpose in the environment.

"It's never been confirmed, but Albert Einstein has been said to have been quoted, 'With the extinction of honey bees, so follows man,'" Palmer said.

COURTESY WWW.WIMBLEDON-BEES.CO.UK



ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

All international Students with F & J Visa Status

If you have health insurance not from UNO,
you will be billed for UNO insurance

In order to waive the charges, your plan must be reviewed by
Marcia Adler at Student Health Services, MBSC 1st Floor
before: **January 29th 2010**

THIS MUST BE DONE EACH SEMESTER!

TOP THREE GADGETS:

AJ Anton
Contributor

Motorola Droid

The Droid is Verizon's answer to the iPhone. Since its release, it's made a strong debut and for good reason. Based on the new Android operating system, the phone is supported by Google, meaning that it can link to your Gmail, Google calendar and other programs such as Twitter or Facebook. The Web browser also works very smoothly and quickly, displaying the Web just as you might see it on a PC. There are several other applications available for the Droid that aren't found on the iPhone ranging from a metal detector to a bar code scanner which allows you to compare prices on Google products. Another advantage Droid might hold over the iPhone is its slide-out keyboard for those who don't like the touch-screen typing. The Droid is priced at \$199.99 with a two-year contract.

Powermat

In a world where people rely on their electronic devices, it's important to keep your gadgets charged. From your iPod to cell phone and even Nintendo DS, the Powermat can charge them all without a single wire. Let's face it — plugging things in can be a real hassle and it's easy to forget. The Powermat has three charging squares and one device can charge on each. It also has a fourth charger in the form of a USB plug. To make this miracle possible, plug a small tip into your electronic device where the charger would normally go. Lights and sounds are emitted to let you know when your device is charging and when it's complete. For just under \$100, the Powermat is on the low end of the price spectrum for gadgets and is a great gift for any tech lover.

Kindle Dx

Each year, the Kindle routinely makes its way into several top gadget lists. The latest generation, the Kindle Dx, boasts a 9.7 inch screen. It's also extremely thin, running about the size of an average magazine. The screen uses e-ink with various shades of grey, giving it a verypaper-like appearance while reading books, newspapers or your own PDF files. The

Holiday Gift Guide

Kindle has wireless 3-G ability, so you can download new books or periodicals in less than 60 seconds without being anywhere near a PC. Books have taken their time coming around to digital distribution. But you can bet that once they make that transition, Kindle Dx will be the premier reading device. The Kindle Dx is priced at around \$500, which might seem a little steep. But a fancy gadget like this

Top three Toys:

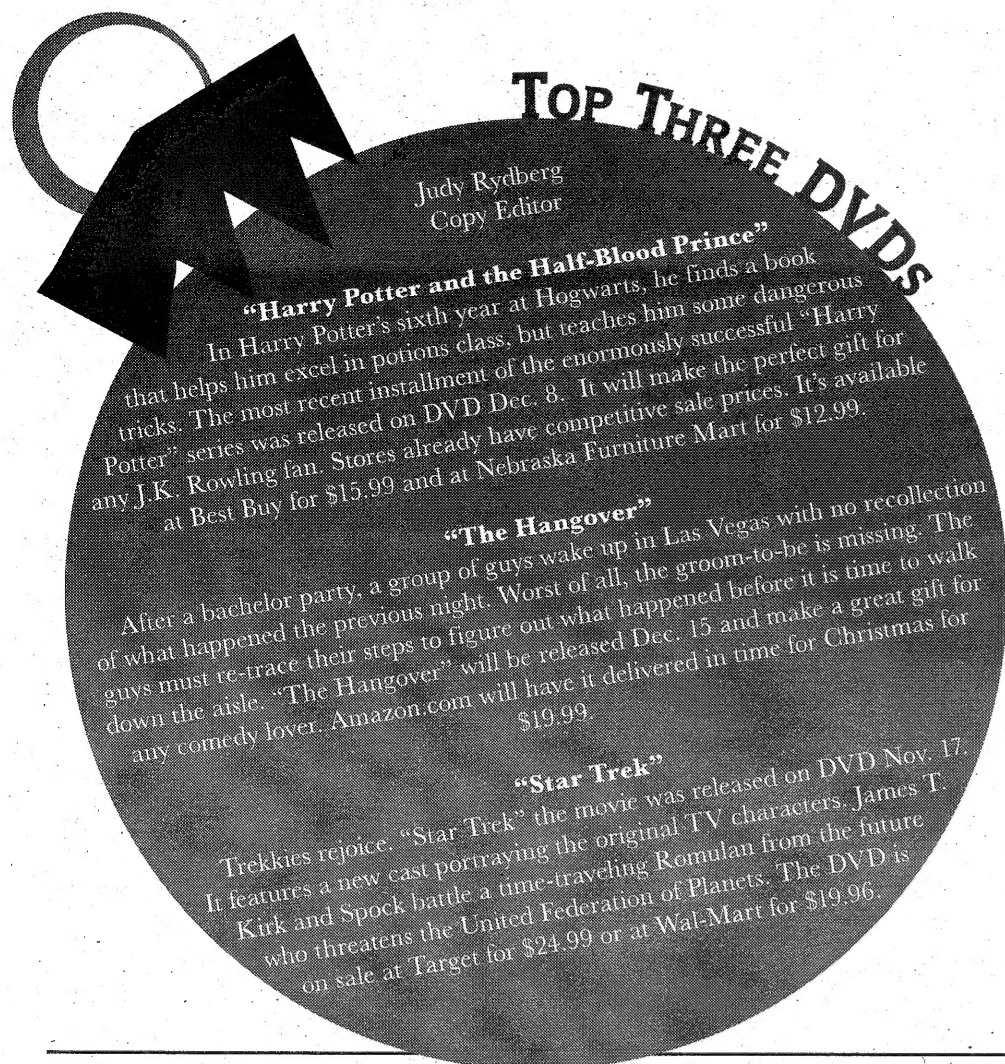
AJ Anton
Contributor

Zhu Zhu Pets

These tiny battery-powered hamsters have clawed their way to the top of the must-have toys list for 2009, flying off retail shelves left and right. There are five hamsters and each have a cute name like "Num Nums" or "Mr. Squiggles." The creatures can be set to nurture mode where they will purr and are just generally lovable, or exploration mode where they'll take a look around their environment and respond to some stimuli. There are also multitudes of accessories available such as a set of tubes, a wheel and even a tiny convertible. Unfortunately for desperate parents, the skyrocketing popularity have marked up the price of these furry must haves, which normally retailed at \$9, have gone up to \$40 in most cases.

Mindflex

The Mindflex is a new kind of toy and something that hasn't been seen before. It's a headband that gives users some kind of Jedi powers, allowing them to cause a ball to float in mid air. You guide this ball through various obstacles, such as a tunnel or a hoop, successfully honing your psychic abilities. What's really happening: the headband is a feedback sensor, which measures how hard you're concentrating. The harder you focus, the higher the ball floats. This one is really targeted towards older children who might even get easily bored once they master it. Priced at \$160, the Mindflex would put a hurt on anyone's wallet, but the sheer oddity of it has made it a popular holiday gift item.



FROM SALES: PAGE 2

paying down their debt and bolstering their savings in case they join the one in 10 working-age Americans who are without jobs. There could be a suppressed demand.

"There's still an element of unknown," Krugman said.

Maybe. When reporting their third-quarter earnings, however, some of the largest retail establishments lowered expectations.

"In light of the current and projected economic environment and expectations for a highly promotional holiday season, Target remains cautious about fourth-quarter performance and is planning conservatively," the company said in a statement Nov. 17.

Retail consultants such as Ted Hurlbut, a Boston-based consultant on retail sales strategy, aren't betting on a December surprise.

"I don't see anything out there that suggests to me otherwise," he said, pointing to volatile indicators of consumer sentiment and an especially tough season for smaller, independent retailers. "I'm not

seeing anything that suggests there's an upside surprise."

For many larger retail chains, the strategy this year is called "managed scarcity," making items scarce so that less product moves but at a higher price.

"Customers are going to be sent the message that you'd better buy it, because it may not be here when you turn around," Hurlbut said. "The theory is that it's going to prop up prices because the merchandise won't be discounted as much as it was" last year.

For retailers who offer seasonal clothing, that plan translates into fewer units for sale per style, Hurlbut said. The goal is to have higher profits on a lower volume of sales, without a huge amount of merchandise left over that has to be deeply discounted in January.

"I think you might start to see more [newspaper] pieces about the second or third week [of the shopping season] that customers can't find stuff," he said.

FROM ENVIRONMENT: PAGE 2

singer/songwriter Sheryl Crow and Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle. It also includes statements from companies such as Nike and Starbucks.

In his lecture, Williams said some people believe volcanoes are to blame for the 380 parts per million of carbon dioxide residing in the atmosphere while others believe this is far from the truth.

"Every year, humanity releases more than 100 times what volcanoes do every single year," Williams said. "Hundreds of millions of years ago, volcanoes created our atmosphere and they allowed the planet to warm up to the point where life could exist."

Regardless, Williams said polar bears will go extinct in our lifetime and more than half of Florida will be underwater.

"Fortunately, the humans probably won't go extinct hopefully, but it's going to be really difficult to fit off the ocean," Williams said.

Kara Kingsley, College Democrats president, said the changing environment cannot be ignored.

The College Democrats will continue to invite the Williams brothers to future meetings to present new materials and shed light on environmental changes.

"We want to inform other students about important issues that are happening right now," Kingsley said. "A lot of people in our group are passionate about this issue and we're going to do our best to educate the word out about it."

TOP THREE BOOKS

Top three video games

AJ Anton
Contributor

“Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2”

Despite the fact that “Modern Warfare 2” broke every sales record it possibly could upon release, you can still bet it will be at the top of holiday video game sales. This follow-up to “Call of Duty 4” had some stiff competition, but several delays have set it up for continuing sales. The campaign mode offers an addictive and intense experience that ends all too quickly. The average player should finish this one in about five hours, but multiplayer is where the game really shines. As players compete online, they earn perks and new weapons. Rewards are given mid-game in the form of kill streaks. Earning X amount of kills can give your team temporary radar and air support. At 25 kills, the player can even win the game using a tactical nuke. Casual players might find the online play a little intimidating but for hardcore gamers, this is a must have shooter.

“New Super Mario Bros.” - Nintendo Wii

This holiday season, Mario and Luigi have made a triumphant return to their roots with “New Super Mario Bros.” on the Nintendo Wii. While it’s really more of a mix between “Super Mario 3” and the original “Mario Bros.,” the simple controls will take you back to 1985. The game is as simple as it can be: run, jump and save the princess. Of course, Nintendo has thrown in some new power ups, which include a propeller hat, penguin suit and an ice flower that allows you to shoot ice instead of fire. The multiplayer option is the big deal here and can be a lot of fun. But be warned, it’s incredibly chaotic. Unfair distribution of power ups and accidental deaths are commonplace. It’s great game for any “Super Mario Bros.” fan, but those easily frustrated had best play alone. The family-friendly feel of the game and multiplayer capabilities promise to deliver a holiday hit.

“Dragon Age: Origins”

“Dragon Age: Origins,” the latest game from BioWare, offers up a massive game for the holiday season. Players can choose a race and class for their character and each combination has its own origin story. This sets up the entire game, explaining your place in the world of Ferelden. BioWare is never short on details, and interested players will find nearly a novel’s worth of information. No matter which origin is chosen, the main quest is similar: players must join Grey Wardens, a special group of solders dedicated to fighting the darkspawn. Along your journey, you’ll pick up a variety of allies, each of which has their own feelings and attitudes about you and each other. Action can be done on your own, but a deep tactics system allows your party members to handle themselves the way you want them to. A deep combat system and deeper story make this game an excellent choice for any RPG fan.

Matchbox Rocky the Robot Truck

Almost every boy growing up had a toy dump truck. But times are changing and so are toys. Meet Rocky the Robot Truck. He can haul and dump items just like any other dump truck and then some. Rocky can sit up on his back wheels and talk, interacting with children as they play. Through the use of motion and sound sensors, Rocky can be given simple instructions, such as reverse, dump or even dance. He’ll even let you know how heavy his cargo is. With more than 80 phrases, children will have a hard time getting bored with this toy. Priced at \$60, Rocky is a little on the expensive side, as most hot holiday toys are. For young boys, you’d be hard pressed to find a more sought-after gift this year.

AJ Anton
Contributor

“The Lost Symbol” by Dan Brown

Dan Brown set the writing bar fairly high with the Da Vinci Code series. For a while, the book was all anyone could hear about on TV. Critics love “The Lost Symbol” for its thrill - Brown’s area of expertise. The story follows Harvard symbolologist Robert Langdon as he is about to give a lecture in Washington. His mentor, an important mason, is kidnapped and the key to saving him lies in a strange object found at the lecture hall, understood by Langdon to be an invitation to a world of wisdom. This book is sure to be great gift for almost any book lover on your list. After all, there must be a reason it’s at the top of Barnes & Noble’s bestsellers list this year.

“Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters” by Jane Austen and Ben H. Winters

This is the second book from contributor Winters to playfully mock or spice up Jane Austen’s work. “Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters” is a perfect gift for that book lover on your list with a taste for quirkiness. The book keeps the core of Austen’s original book. The Dashwood girls are reduced to poverty but instead of moving to a cottage, they are sent to an island. As luck would have it, the island is surrounded by a multitude of sea monsters. There are giant octopuses and sea serpents galore. One of the girls is even courted by Colonel Brandon, a middle aged man with tentacles lining his chin. For the offbeat book reader on your list, this is the perfect choice.

“Going Rogue” by Sarah Palin

Sarah Palin isn’t going away anytime soon. Her memoir, “Going Rogue,” skyrocketed to number one on both Amazon and Barnes & Nobles’ pre-order list, quickly becoming a number-one seller. The book documents Palin’s upbringing, political life and reactions to criticism among other topics, but those who are looking for information on her future plans will be disappointed. There are none included. It received a variety of reviews, ranging from excellent to dismal. Whether you’re shopping for a Palin fan or you know someone who just can’t stand her, “Going Rogue” will either make for a great gift or a hilarious one.

TOP THREE ALBUMS

Andrea Bocelli - "My Christmas"
Classical Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli's second Christmas album hit No. 2 on the Billboard 200. It features vocal and instrumental holiday favorites such as "First Noel," "Silent Night" and "White Christmas." The album will make a great gift for any of your musical muses. It may also be a good gift to get for additions to your own collection. It's available on Target for \$11.99 or Amazon.com for \$7.99.

"The Twilight Saga: New Moon" soundtrack
You don't always own the "Twilight" DVD and the "New Moon" soundtrack. The DVD was on the charts for months so the "New Moon" soundtrack will be a great way to express your love for the series. The album hit No. 1 on the Billboard 200 and features songs from Death Cab for Cutie, M83 and OK Go. Borders.com has it for \$14.99, and Half Price Books has it for as low as \$9.99 while supplies last.

PROBLEM SOLVER?

NOW HIRING CUSTOMER SERVICE AND RISK OPERATIONS PROFESSIONALS

PayPal is looking for outgoing, tech-savvy, hard-working individuals for our La Vista location. We offer competitive pay and a variety of other benefits, including educational assistance. All in a fun, casual working environment that was voted one of the best places to work in Omaha.

WE HAVE SPACES TO FILL | APPLY NOW AT WWW.PAYPAL.COM

EOE/AA

verizon wireless

electrifier

aka Jennifer, Verizon Wireless

At Verizon Wireless, I'm always on the go - always meeting and working with new people. I'm so energized by my career!
[I love the feeling that I'm constantly making things happen!]

CONGRATULATIONS TO FALL 2009 GRADUATES!

Opportunities currently exist for:

Customer Service Representatives

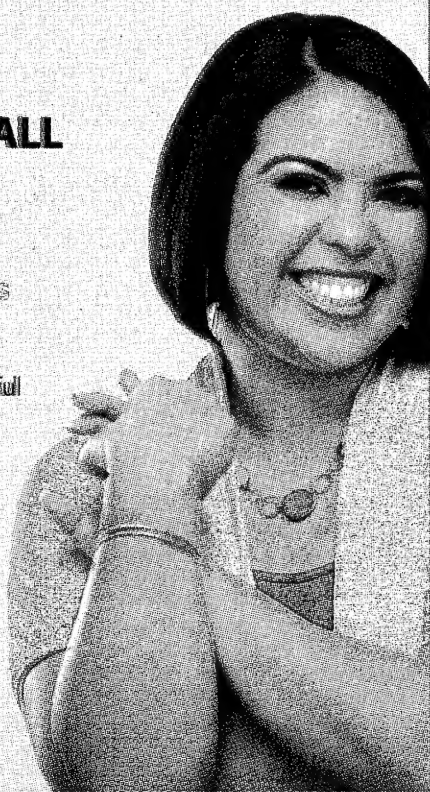
Retail Sales Representatives

Join us, and become part of the most successful team in wireless! Learn about the latest and greatest mobile devices while growing a successful career. Enjoy industry-leading benefits that start day one including competitive pay, 401(k), tuition assistance, award-winning training and much more.

Careers For Everything You Are

www.vzw4lincoln.com/print

Verizon Wireless is an equal opportunity employer, m/f/h/v.



Season's Greetings

*As the holidays approach, our thoughts turn to family, friends and colleagues,
who are truly the best gift of the season.*

Wishing you and your family joy and peace now and throughout 2010.

Chancellor John Christensen



UNO BOOKSTORE

Holiday SALE!

~Dec. 7-18~

20% OFF

Holiday Books
Children Books
Hardbacks
Paperbacks

BUY 1 UNO MAVERICK APPAREL ITEM, Get the 2nd - 1/2 OFF

* 2nd item must be of equal or lesser value, limited to in-stock items. IN-STORE ONLY

UNO violinist continues to make beautiful music in Omaha

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When she was introduced to the violin at age 4, Sophie Genevieve was given her "voice."

Genevieve's mother, a choir director and organist, was the one who introduced her to the stringed instrument. Immediately, Genevieve developed a passion for the Classical instrument, which served as a tool to express her inner self.

"I liked its sound and how it made me feel," Genevieve said. "I enjoyed the challenges that playing the violin gave me."

The 22-year-old UNO senior and violin performance major now serves as the concertmaster for the 70-member Heartland Philharmonic Orchestra, which is comprised of students and community members.

Genevieve auditioned for the orchestra once she transferred to UNO in January.

"Being concertmaster involves a lot of work not only with the music but between the musicians and the conductor," Genevieve said. "If something goes wrong, it's my fault. But it is an honor. My job is much easier because we have such talented and dedicated conductors and musicians."



Senior Sophie Genevieve was first introduced to the violin at age 4. (COURTESY OF TIM FITZGERALD)

Another one of Genevieve's accomplishments included an invitation to play in a master class for world-famous classical violinist Midori Goto in 2008. She was also invited to attend a month-long Quebec-based international music festival called Le Domaine Forget.

"This has allowed me to get exposed to all kinds of music, different violin techniques, as well as to play with some incredible musicians," Genevieve said.

She is now going to bring her experience to center stage in January 2010 with a violin solo featuring works from Classical-Romantic

composer Ludwig van Beethoven to French composer Camille Saint-Saens.

"The recital is quite varied," Genevieve said. "The last part of the piece, I play 372 notes in about 35 seconds to 40 seconds."

Genevieve said she has no limits when it comes to down to playing the harmonic complexity of Baroque composer Johann Sebastian Bach, the soul-wrenching lyricism of Romantic composer Johannes Brahms, the fire of Classical-Romantic composer Ludwig van Beethoven or the raw emotion of 20th Century Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich.

Genevieve mostly enjoys playing the first movement of 20th century Russian composer and pianist Sergei Prokofiev's first violin concerto.

Prokofiev's concerto echoed the collapse of Imperial Russia, which led to the abdication of Czar Nicholas II of Russia and the outcries of the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917.

"It is an amazing piece that goes from a haunting Russian theme to extreme horror and the reconciliation," Genevieve said.

Genevieve said the most enjoyable piece to play is Shostakovich's Piano Trio in E Minor, which depicts the annihilation of the Jews during the Holocaust with her piano group Trio!

"It requires so much mentally, physically and spiritually," Genevieve said. "But at the end of the performance, one feels exhausted and yet as though you have participated in an immortal art."

Genevieve finds her third hour of playing to be her peak performance.

"I try to warm up for about 90 minutes to two hours before a performance," Genevieve said. "But after that, I just go running, take a nap and read my Bible."

Someday, Genevieve — who also plays the trumpet — said she has dreams of stepping up her musical performances by learning how to play the pipe organ.

"It's absolutely fantastic," Genevieve said, "like a whole symphony beneath your fingers with such a glorious and powerful sound."

With the continued support of her family and mentors, Genevieve said the power exerted by the pipe organ is in reach.

"Music is such an addicting art [and] the more I perform, the more I can't get enough of it," Genevieve said. "All of my professors have challenged me and have been so interested in me, not only as a student but as a musician."

Blizzard forces comedian, musician Bo Burnham to cancel UNO show

ANDREA BARBE
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

What would have been a study break for students the week before finals turned into a treacherous night that left Omaha covered in snow and dealing with one of the worst blizzards to hit the city in years.

Comedian and musician Bo Burnham was scheduled to perform at the Omaha Music Hall at 1804 Capitol Ave., on Dec. 9, but due to inclement weather, Burnham had to cancel his show. Maverick Productions, a student-funded and student-managed organization that brings entertainment to campus, was hosting the event.

Burnham, a 19-year-old singer-songwriter, began his career writing about teenage angst while rehearsing a play at his high school in 2006. He debuted his songs for his fellow high school classmates and later that year, videotaped himself performing two songs. Burnham would post the songs on YouTube so his older brother Pete could view them while away attending college.

Response to his two videos "My Whole Family..." and "My 'little' secret" on YouTube were marked as unexceptional at first, but later copied to Break.com. Both movies became an overnight sensation and Burnham became an Internet celebrity.

In August 2008, four days after his 18th birthday, he released his first EP "Bo Fo Sho" under Comedy Central Records. With this release, Burnham became the youngest person in history to record a Comedy Central special. He followed that album up with his first full-length self-titled CD, which dropped under the same label in March this year.

Burnham has performed in various venues throughout the United States as well as internationally in places like London and Montreal. He's been compared with Ben Folds, Eminem and Andrew Dice Clay in terms of his music and performances, which discuss controversial topics such as race, gender, human sexuality and sex.

As of October, Burnham's YouTube videos have received more than 52.2 million views and the numbers are growing daily.

Currently on his "Fake ID" tour traveling to university campuses all over the country, UNO's Maverick Productions made arrangements to bring Burnham to Omaha. But after a blizzard hit the Midwest on Tuesday, Burnham was forced to cancel his tour dates at UNO and South Dakota State University.

"I apologize to South Dakota State and University of Nebraska at Omaha," Burnham said via Twitter on Dec. 8. "All connecting flights are cancelled. So are the shows. Boo snow..."

Facebook e-mails were sent out on later that day to notify those planning to attend the show that it had been cancelled. The e-mails also notified students of different options for their now obsolete tickets.

"Maverick Productions will do their best to reschedule the show during the spring," said Ignacio Chavez, a representative for Maverick Productions. "In any case that we are unable to reschedule, you can receive a ticket reimbursement. Please try to hold on to any of your tickets and receipts. Your original ticket will still be good at the new show."

Burnham also expressed sympathy for the cancellations and hoped to make it to the two campuses soon.

"I will try very hard to reschedule the shows. I apologize again. It wasn't my choice," Burnham said. "Old man winter molested the hell out of me."

FROM MEMORIAL: PAGE 1

Julie Masters, current chair of the department of gerontology at UNO, spoke about Powell's commitment towards his research. Before leaving UNO in 2001, Powell established a graduate fund for the student in the gerontology department with the best thesis. His care for his students was sincere despite his nicknames for them, such as "ankle biters."

"Chuck co-wrote 50 journal articles, six book chapters and one book," Masters said. "Though his wife told us not to make him out as a saint, Chuck's aid to students pursuing doctoral degrees, including myself, should more than qualify him for canonization," Masters said.

After the stories were shared, a video was played reflecting on Powell's life. Black and white photos featured him and his siblings playing in the front yard as toddlers, as well as Powell's silhouette framed by a turbulent Atlantic ocean rocking the USS Tuscaloosa.

Powell enjoyed French culture and history, and several of the photos showed him with his wife in Paris.

"Our memories of Chuck will sustain us," said Laurie Taylor, Powell's stepdaughter. "And we have all been enriched because he was in our lives."

A celebration of life service was held Sunday at the Alumni Center for Chuck Powell, professor emeritus of gerontology, who passed away Oct. 23 after a brief illness at age 88. Powell enlisted in the Navy in 1940 and served in World War II. His 30-year military career led him to Europe where he aided the Berlin Airlift. (MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY)



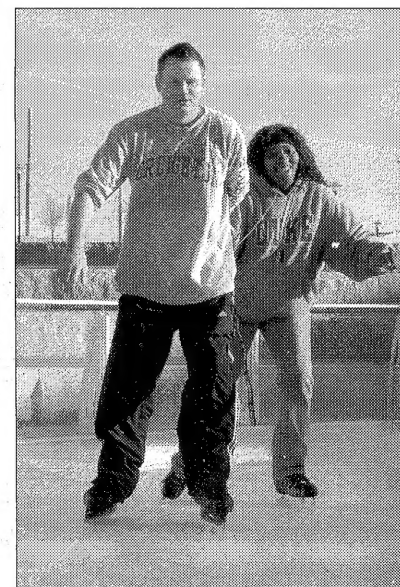
FROM RINK: PAGE 1

Thomas, assistant vice chancellor for business services. "We want to make this a memorable experience for everybody who comes to skate."

The rink will be open from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. on Saturdays and noon until 8 p.m. on Sundays.

Admission is free for UNMC students, \$4 for employees and family members. Regular admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children age 12 and younger. Skate rental is \$3.

The ConAgra Foods Ice Rink at 10th and Harney Streets is the only other outdoor skating rink in Omaha. The ConAgra rink is open from Dec. 12 until Dec. 31.



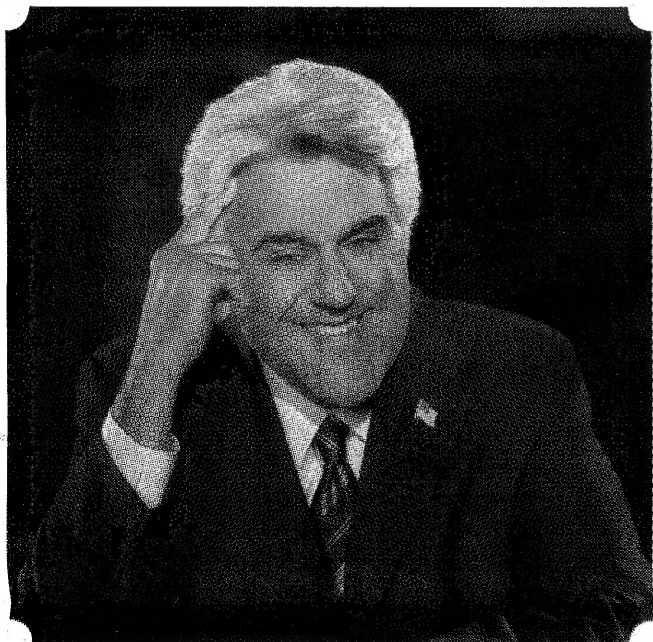
Christopher Payne and Naomi Chasse skate at the new UNMC ice rink on Saturday. The 5,500-square-foot rink was made possible by a gift from Omaha philanthropists Ruth and Bill Scott. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

ENTERTAINMENT TIMELINE 2009

ANDREA BARBE
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Jan. 31 – Photos of Olympic swimming champion Michael Phelps smoking marijuana through a bong were leaked to the press. Phelps was ultimately suspended from USA Swimming for three months following the incident.

Feb. 8 – Barbados-born singer Rihanna cancelled her performance at the 2009 Grammy Awards. Rihanna's boyfriend and fellow singer Chris Brown was arrested on suspicion of making criminal threats. A month later, Brown was charged with assault and making criminal threats after photos surfaced of Rihanna with visible facial injuries.



Jay Leno will host his new show, "The Jay Leno Show," which premieres September 14, 2009. (MITCHELL HAASETH/COURTESY NBC/MCT)

Feb. 22 – British film "Slumdog Millionaire" won eight Oscars including Best Picture at the 81st annual Academy Awards.

Feb. 26 – New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady and supermodel Gisele Bündchen wed at the St. Monica Catholic Church in Santa Monica, Calif.

March 2 – ABC's "The Bachelor" came to an end when account executive Jason Mesnick proposed to former Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader Melissa Rycroft. However, on the two-hour-finale, Mesnick broke off his engagement with Rycroft and proclaimed he still had feelings for runner-up Molly Malaney.

March 18 – Actress Natasha Richardson, 45, died from a head injury after taking skiing lessons with her two sons in Quebec, Canada.

March 19 – President Barack Obama appeared on NBC's "The

Tonight Show" with Jay Leno.

April 2 – NBC's medical drama "ER" aired its final episode. The Emmy award-winning drama created by Michael Crichton spanned 15 seasons.

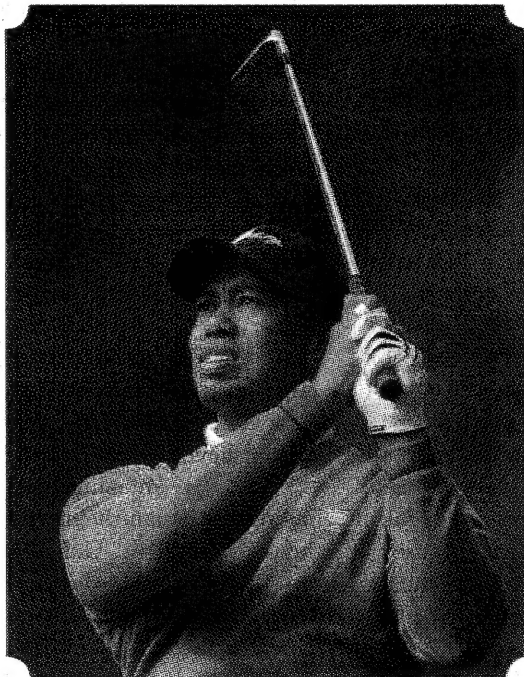
April 11 – Scottish singer Susan Boyle appeared on reality TV show "Britain's Got Talent" singing "I Dreamed a Dream" from "Les Misérables." Boyle's audition gained her fame worldwide.

April 19 – The Miss USA pageant aired. Miss California Carrie Prejean was asked about her views on same-sex marriage by pageant judge Perez Hilton. Her answer sparked an uproar of controversy.

May 3 – Former "Baywatch" hunk David Hasselhoff was rushed to the hospital for alcohol poisoning. Hasselhoff reportedly had a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.39 and has publicly admitted treatment for alcoholism in the past.

June 22 – Jon and Kate Gosselin, stars of TLC's hit show "Jon & Kate Plus 8," announced they were separating and that divorce proceedings were under way.

June 25 – The "King of Pop" Michael Jackson died from an apparent drug overdose. Jackson's personal physician, Conrad Murray, was targeted for the homicide after the coroner found propofol, lorazepam and midazolam in the performer's system. To date, law enforcement officials are conducting an ongoing investigation of Murray.



United States team member Tiger Woods watches his approach shot on the sixth hole during the first round of the 2009 President's Cup at Harding Park Golf Course in San Francisco, California, Thursday, October 8, 2009. (JOSE CARLOS FAJARDO/CONTRA COSTA TIMES/MCT)

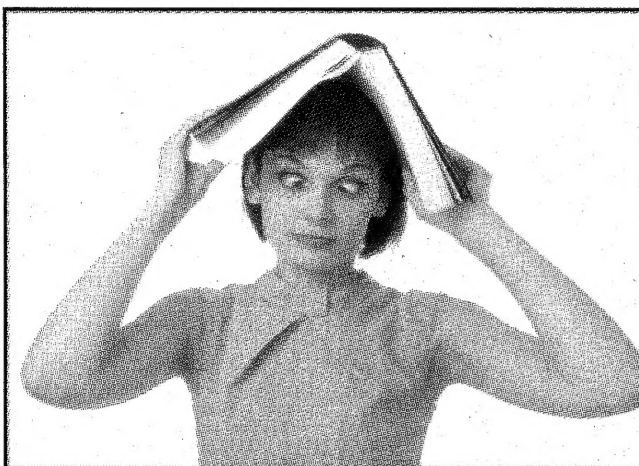
June 25 – Actress and international sex symbol Farrah Fawcett died of anal cancer at age 62. Fawcett had been diagnosed with cancer in 2006. She was best known for her role on "Charlie's Angels" in the 1970s.

June 28 – TV spokesman Billy Mays died at age 50.

July 13 – People magazine reported that Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo and pop singer Jessica Simpson ended their relationship shortly before Simpson's 29th birthday. The couple had been dating since November 2007.

July 15 – "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" opened in theaters across the globe. The popular movie about wizards is the sixth release in the "Harry Potter" series based off the books by J.K. Rowling of the same name.

July 16 – A video of ESPN reporter Erin Andrews naked was leaked on the Internet. Michael David Barrett, 48, was arrested and charged for tapping Andrews through



Save Your Sanity for Finals.

Find a unique gift for everyone on your list without setting foot in a mall.

With a wide variety of loose leaf teas, accessories, and gift baskets, we have the perfect present for any budget.

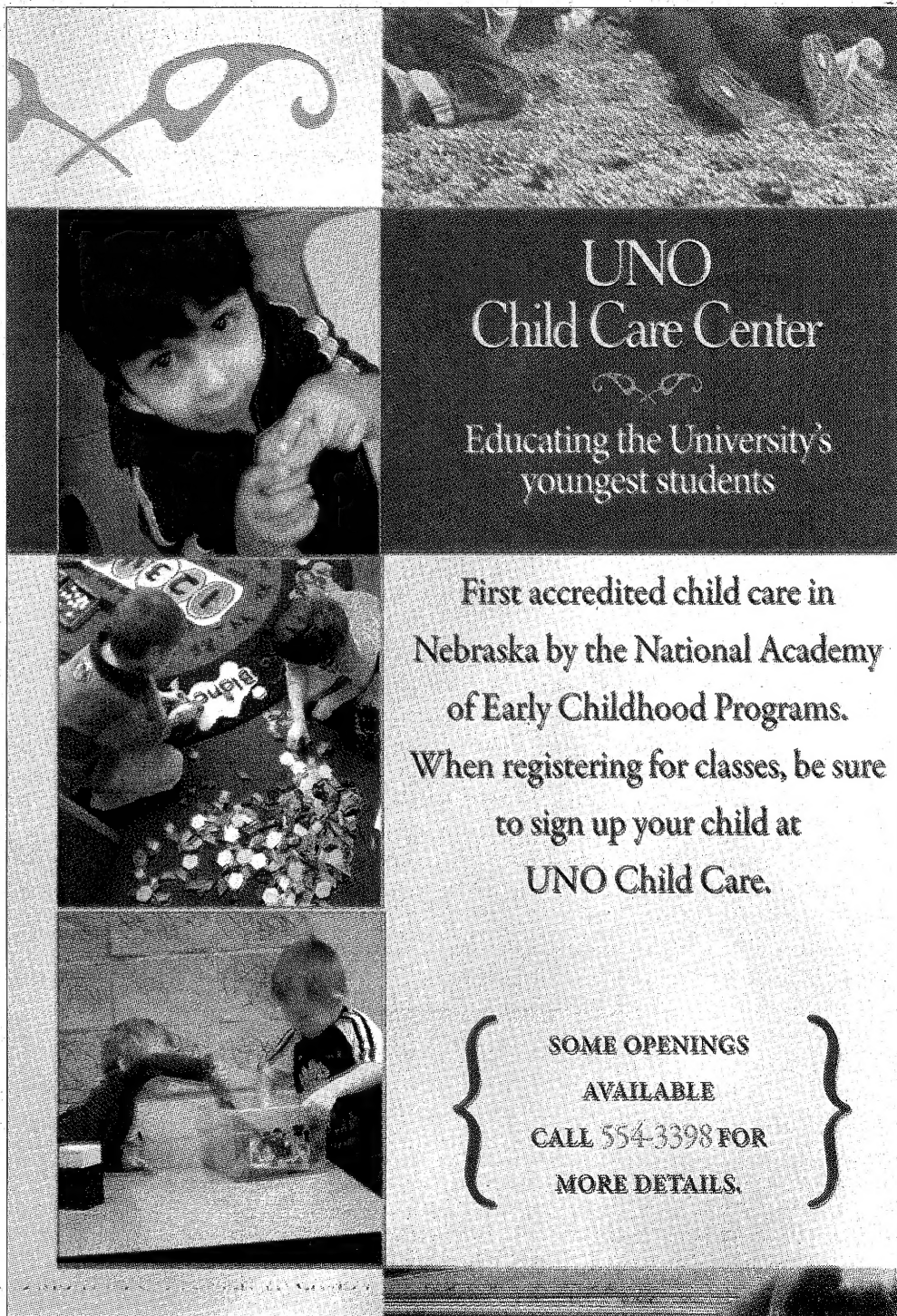
 **the tea smith™** www.theteasmith.com

168th & W. Center
Shops of Legacy

78th & Dodge
Tower Plaza



Find us on Facebook for exclusive coupons, fan favorites, and store events.



UNO Child Care Center

Educating the University's
youngest students

First accredited child care in
Nebraska by the National Academy
of Early Childhood Programs.

When registering for classes, be sure
to sign up your child at
UNO Child Care.

SOME OPENINGS
AVAILABLE
CALL 554-3398 FOR
MORE DETAILS.



Performer Michael Jackson is shown in concert October 24, 1988, in Auburn Hills, Michigan. (DE) NC 2001 (HORIZ) (GSB) PHOTO BY STEVE R. NICKERSON/DETROIT FREE (AUGUST 13)

the peephole of her hotel room.

July 19 – “The JK Wedding Entrance Dance” video was uploaded to YouTube. The video featured the song “Forever” by Chris Brown as the wedding party danced down the aisle. It went viral and within the first 48 hours online, the video was viewed more than 3.5 million times.

Aug. 19 – VH1 pulled the show “Megan Wants a Millionaire” after one of its contestants, Ryan Jenkins, was wanted by police in connection with the murder of his wife, swimsuit model Jasmine Fiore. On Aug. 22, the show was officially cancelled and the following day, Jenkins was found dead in a motel in his native Canada.

Aug. 31 – The Walt Disney Co. purchased Marvel Entertainment, a comic book and action hero company. Reports say that Disney spent about \$4 billion for Marvel.

Sept. 13 – During the MTV Music Awards, rapper Kanye West interrupted country singer Taylor Swift as she was making her acceptance speech for winning “Best Female Video.”

Sept. 14 – Comedian and late-night TV host Jay Leno left NBC’s “The Tonight Show” to host “The Jay Leno Show” on the same network. Leno’s show filled a primetime slot while Conan O’Brien stepped in as the new host for “The Tonight Show.”

Sept. 14 – Actor and “Dirty Dancing” star Patrick Swayze died of pancreatic cancer at age 57. Swayze died 20 months after being diagnosed with the illness.

Sept. 27 – Khloe Kardashian and Los Angeles Lakers forward Lamar Odom married in Bel Air, Calif. The pair had only been dating a month, according to reports.

Sept. 28 – “Lucy” of Beatles music fame died. Lucy Voddan, 46, who provided the inspiration for the classic song “Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds,” died after a lengthy battle with lupus.

Oct. 1 – Late show host David Letterman announced that he was a victim of an extortion attempt after someone contacted him, threatening to reveal that Letterman had sex with a few female employees. CBS’ “48 Hours” producer Robert J. Halderman, the alleged extortionist, was later arrested for the crime.

Oct. 15 – Parents of Falcon Heene, 6, reported him missing and claimed he flew off in a homemade balloon shaped like a silver flying saucer or UFO over Fort Collins, Colo. Falcon, or “Balloon Boy” as he was later dubbed, was found safe, hiding out in the Heene’s home. Later, Falcon’s parents admitted that the stunt was a hoax, hoping that the publicity would gain the family a reality TV show.

Oct. 27 – Music video game “DJ Hero” was released in North America. The game featured turntables to simulate DJs mixing and blending of music, and is another alternative to other popular games such as “Guitar Hero” and “Rock Band.”



Rihanna attends the 2007 MTV Video Music Awards held at the Palms Casino Resort in Las Vegas, September 9, 2007. (LIONEL HAHN/ABACA PRESS/MCT)

Nov. 10 – The first-person shooter video game “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2” became available for purchase. The game sold about 4.7 million copies worldwide in a 24 hours period.

Nov. 17 – Former Alaska governor and Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin released her memoir “Going Rogue.”

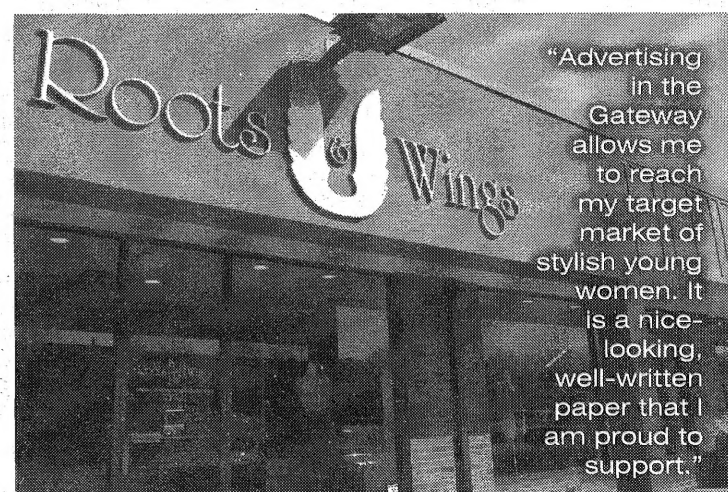
Nov. 20 – Stephenie Meyer’s second installment in the “The Twilight Saga: New Moon” was released in movie theaters across the country. The teen vampire flick made \$140.7 million in its opening weekend.

Nov. 27 – Professional golfer Tiger Woods crashed his 2009 Cadillac Escalade into a fire hydrant and tree outside his home in an Orlando, Fla., suburb. Reports soon surfaced that Woods’ crash was due to marital problems with wife Elin Nordegren. In the days following the crash, Woods admitted to having extra-marital affairs and held a press conference, apologizing to his wife, family and friends for his “transgressions.”

NOW BEST IS THE BEST TIME TO ADVERTISE WITH THE gateway.

We want to help your business succeed.

With affordable advertising rates, a targeted demographic and a friendly staff who understands your unique vision, the Gateway is always there to keep your best interest at heart. No matter what the economy is doing.



gateway

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION, CALL US AT 402-554-2494 | MBSC 116 - 6001 DODGE ST. - OMAHA NE 68182-0197

Former UNO linebacker trades red, white for NFL purple, gold

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Former UNO Maverick offensive linebacker Olayiwola Kendae "Kenny" Onatolu could be on the road to Super Bowl XLIV in Miami with the Minnesota Vikings.

But, Onatolu wasn't always a Vikings fan. He started out as a San Francisco 49ers fan at age 10, when football became a part of his life.

"I used to always watch it on TV and play outside," Onatolu said, "but I actually started playing in peewees and...just kind of carried on from there."

Born in Chicago, Onatolu even spent three years in his parents' home country of Nigeria.

"It wasn't anything what people think," Onatolu said. "The only reason we ended up leaving [was] because the president at the time was a little corrupt, so my parents didn't want me and my brother raised in that situation."

Onatolu eventually moved back to the United States and grew up in Omaha, where he played high school football for the Papillion-LaVista Monarchs.

Onatolu almost couldn't even play high school football because of some doctors, who were close family friends.

"They didn't let their sons play football just because they've done surgery, ACL surgeries, broken legs and all of that kind of stuff," he said.

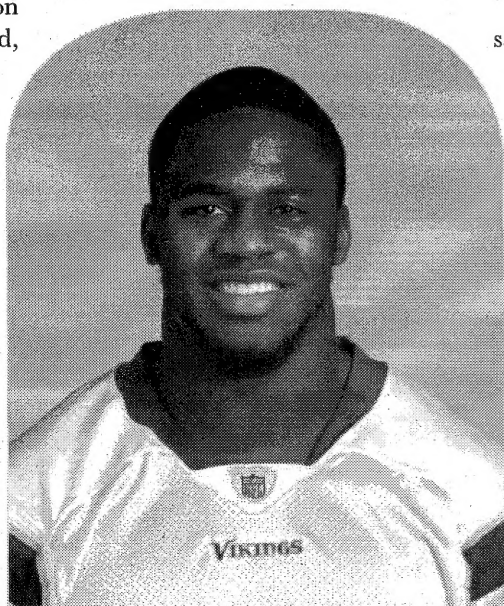
After some heavy persuasion with his twin brother Taiwo, who was his teammate at UNO and now a graduate assistant on the Maverick football staff, Onatolu was able to launch his football career.

Onatolu would go on to earn second-team all-state honors and set a school record with 326 rushing yards in one game. As a high school senior, he rushed for 1,500 yards and scored 16 touchdowns. He also played in the Nebraska Shrine Bowl, an all-star

football game for graduating high-school seniors in Nebraska.

After high school, Onatolu went on to be a four-year starter for the UNO Mavericks from 2002-2006 with his brother.

"It was definitely tough with the coaches," he said. "We put in a lot of time and hard work, but that just made it a lot easier for me when I went down to Canada."



KENNY ONATOLU

Onatolu, a redshirt freshman, started as a strong safety in 2002 and shifted to offensive linebacker status in 2005, earning all-North Central Conference first team honors along the way. He was also named second-team All-American by CollegeSportsReport.com and was named second-team all-region by Daktronics to name a few.

Onatolu admitted that his brother was the better linebacker of the two.

"He was actually better than me coming up," he said. "Even at UNO, Taiwo was always the number one linebacker."

In high school, Taiwo earned first-team all-state player and earned

133 tackles as a senior linebacker. Also an emerging redshirt freshman for the Mavericks, he earned second-team all North Central Conference honors, was named the NCC's most valuable linebacker and went on to earn All-American honors by D2Football.com to name a few.

However, Taiwo shared the title all-NCC linebacker with his brother in 2003.

"He's still coaching me," Onatolu said. "He critiques me, tells me what I need to do and I'm still learning from him."

After graduating in 2006 with a degree in communication, Onatolu would go undrafted the following year. The Edmonton Eskimos in Canada eventually picked him up in 2007.

"Statistically, it's hard for you to even get an opportunity coming out of a small school like UNO," he said. "I kind of traveled the long road going to Canada first."

As a rookie, Onatolu recorded eight tackles and a sack for the Eskimos. He then recorded 59 tackles, three sacks and two fumble recoveries in 2008.

"It's a little more fast-paced because it's more of an offensive game, more like arena football," Onatolu said. "It's still football in the end. It's still running and tackling and catching and scoring."

The Minnesota Vikings then picked up Onatolu as a free agent on Dec. 31, 2008.

Onatolusaidhisscheduleincludes playing games on Sunday, watching film on Mondays and workdays Wednesday through Friday.

Tuesdays are our day offs, he said.

"But, I always like to go in and get another workout in," Onatolu added.

He said his teammates give him

SEE ONATOLU: PAGE 11

Mavs fall to West Texas A&M in Kanza Bowl 31-25

JOE MCCAMPBELL
CONTRIBUTOR

Ending the season in a bowl game was not the goal for the UNO football team.

The team was picked at the beginning of the season to be near the bottom of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. By the end of the season, the Mavericks had finished second in the conference with a 7-4 record.

"I am really proud of our guys," senior quarterback Greg Wunderlich said. "We accomplished a lot more than people thought. We were picked as a middle of the pack team and we ended up finishing second."

The Mavs' 7-4 record kept them out of the Division II playoffs, but gave them a chance to play against West Texas A&M in the inaugural Kanza Bowl in Topeka, Kan.

The Mavericks lost 31-25 to the Buffaloes on Dec. 5 at Hummer Sports Park. The Mavericks went into halftime losing 10-9, but regained the lead at the start of the third quarter when sophomore linebacker Kyle Moore intercepted Buffaloes' quarterback Taylor Harris' pass and returned it for a touchdown.

UNO lost the lead again when the Buffaloes scored a touchdown on a 15-yard scramble to make the score 17-16. On their next possession, Greg Zuerlein's 54 yard field goal attempt was blocked.

After the blocked field goal, the Buffs connected on a 40-yard touchdown pass to extend the lead to 24-16.

Junior running back Duane Bowen closed the gap to two points with a 2-yard touchdown run, but the Buffaloes answered with another touchdown pass from Harris. That touchdown gave the Buffaloes their biggest lead of the game at 31-22.

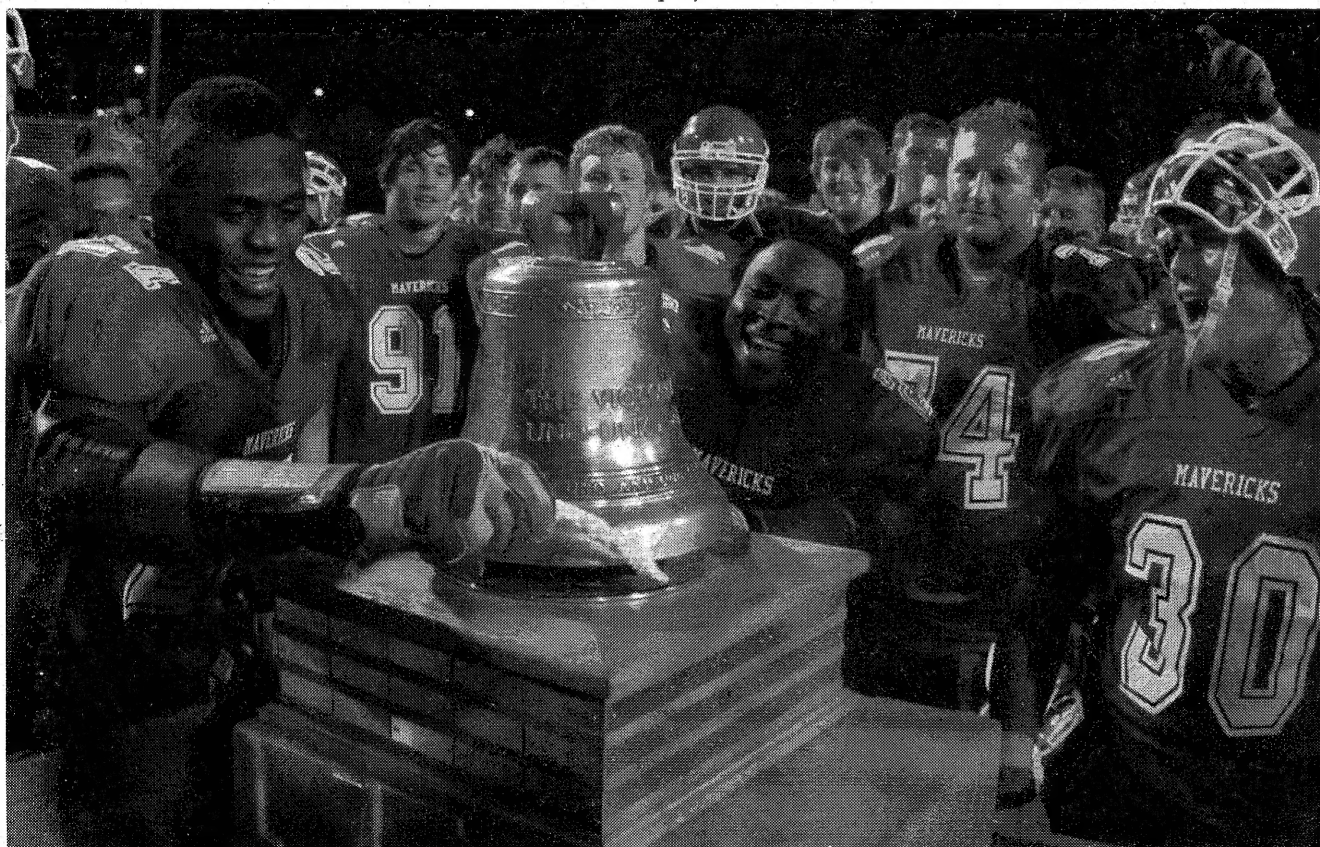
Zuerlein booted another field goal to make the game 31-25 for a final score in the last game of the season. He was 4-5 on field goals for the day.

In his final game at signal caller for UNO, Wunderlich went 26-44 for 252 yards. Wunderlich threw a touchdown and was intercepted once.

"Even though we lost, this bowl game was like another spring ball," Wunderlich said. "It was a way for the young guys to improve and gain even more experience heading into next season."

Wunderlich was a backup for the majority of his college career. He took over the starting role when former quarterback Zach Miller was drafted to the NFL. Wunderlich threw for 2,744 yards and 21 touchdowns with only 10 interceptions.

SEE KANZA BOWL: PAGE 11



Kenny Onatolu (left) rings the Victory Bell after the Mavericks beat UNK in 2006. Onatolu now plays linebacker for the Minnesota Vikings. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

Have a Safe and Sexy Holiday

Remember

we have 23 locations throughout Iowa and Nebraska.

Remind

your friends that safe is always sexy—especially around the holidays.

Give

your friends condoms and remind them to stay safe and sexy.

Stay "safe and sexy" this year.

Call 1.877.811.PLAN (7526)

Visit www.ppheartland.org

Text "banana" to 72466 for weekly Text Appeal trivia.



Planned Parenthood
of the Heartland
2 Omaha Locations!

FROM **KANZA BOWL**: PAGE 10

"I am really happy with how I played, I don't have any regrets but I wish I wouldn't have gotten hurt," Wunderlich said.

The bright spot for Wunderlich this season was senior day. The Mavericks beat Pittsburg State 31-28 in overtime. "We have never had a game like that, and I will never forget it," Wunderlich said.

Another bright spot this season was the emergence of freshman running back Levi Terrell. At the beginning of the season the Mavericks coaching staff planned to redshirt Terrell, but there

were a few injuries to the stable of backs so Terrell's redshirt was burned. In eight games Terrell rushed for 1,182 yards and seven touchdowns. Terrell, named the MIAA Newcomer of the Year, looks to be the future of the Mavericks as he has another three years in the program to improve.

Next season, the Mavericks look to build on their 7-5 record. A goal is to return to the playoffs. The team returns nine starters on defense and they lose only three on the defensive side of the ball.

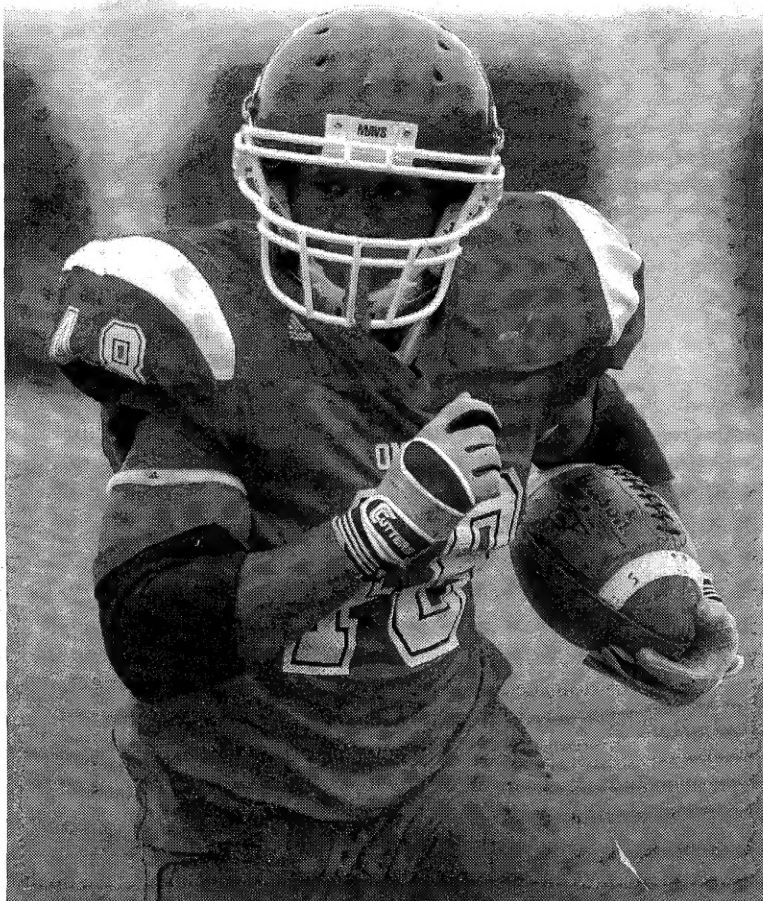
"On paper, we should get better,"

Wunderlich said. "It is exciting to give the younger players even more experience in order to get better."

Next season the team will have redshirt freshman John Teigland as its starting quarterback. Teigland played in mop up duty for Wunderlich and started one game due to a Wunderlich injury.

The Mavericks' stampede will be even louder in the coming years on the backs of the returning players.

"Looking back on the season, we really accomplished a lot," Wunderlich said.



Freshman tailback Levi Terrell picked up 98 rushing yards on 28 carries against West Texas A&M Saturday at the Kanza Bowl in Topeka, Kan. UNO lost 31-25 and finished the season at 7-5. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

FROM **ONATOLU**: PAGE 10

a little guff for playing in the Midwest.

"Everyone has their stories because most of the guys all played DI and a lot of them played against each other," Onatolu said. "I could never reference to anybody... so they kind of make fun of me a little bit because of where I went."

Teammate Brett Farve, however, is a "good dude."

"He's another one of the guys on the team," Onatolu said. "You just watch him practice and...you just try to learn from him and see the little things he does."

Under Farve's leadership, the team hopes to face-off against Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts or Tom Brady and the New England Patriots.

Onatolu said there is still too much football left to be thinking ahead of the game.

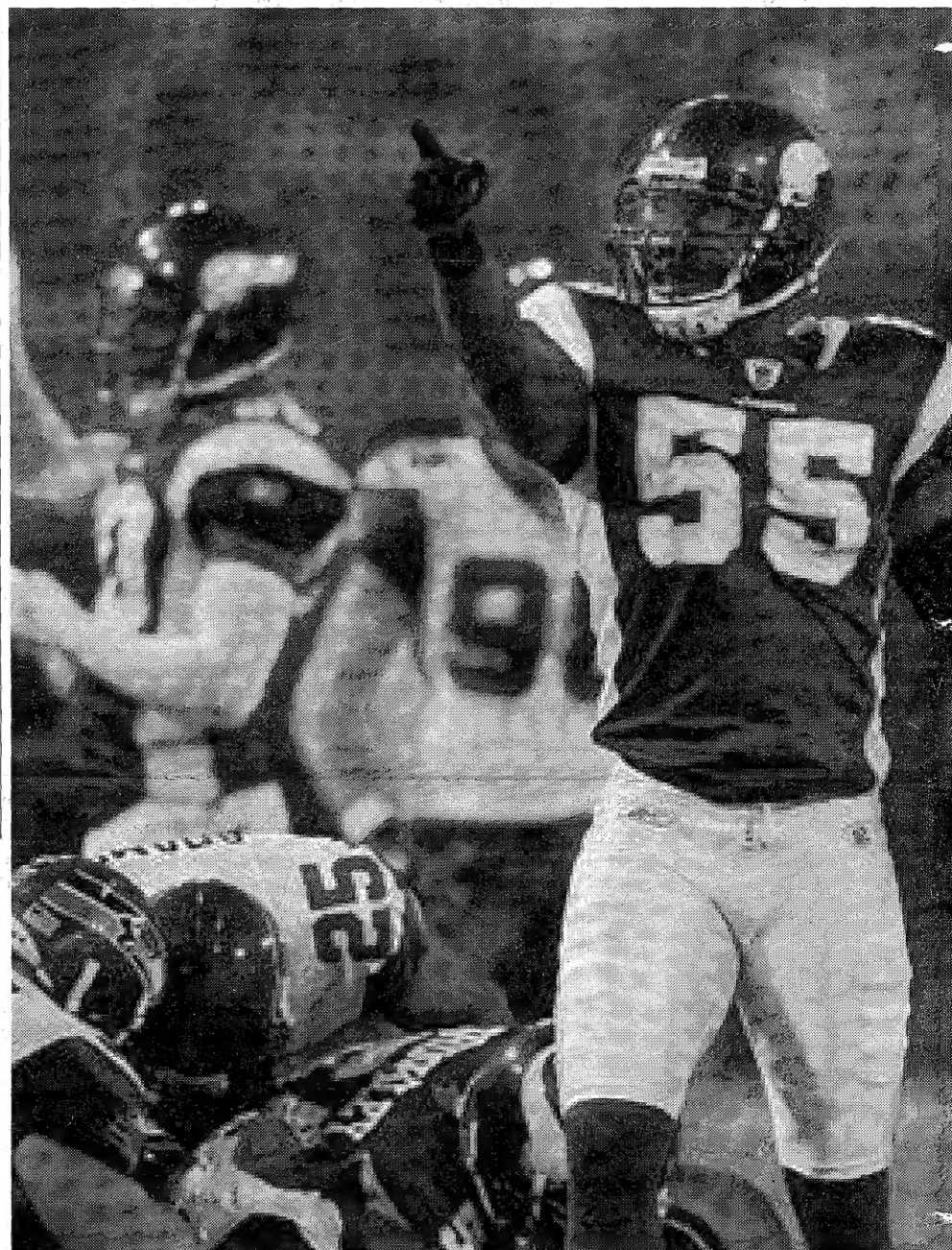
"Obviously, we have a great opportunity to get there and to win it," he said. "We just go week by week and the opportunity is going to present itself and hopefully we can take advantage of it."

Although the Vikings are at the forefront of Super Bowl fever, Onatolu still has Maverick Mojo.

"I keep tabs on the outcomes of the games and how they are doing and certain players that come in," he said. "I pay attention to the Huskers, too, a little bit, but I mostly pay attention to UNO."

Until this day, competition hasn't surfaced between the two brothers.

"We just always wanted one of us to make it," Onatolu said, "and one of us actually ended up making it and that's all we ever wanted."



Former Maverick Kenny Onatolu is currently playing his first season in the NFL for the Minnesota Vikings. (PHOTO BY MINNESOTA VIKINGS/AMOS-SMITH)

Attention: All Students!

Swearing-In Ceremony and Reception

Tuesday, January 12
12:30 p.m. Ballroom

Honoring:

MICHAEL CRABB

2010 UNO Student Body President/Regent

GINA HALBOM

2010 Student Government Vice President

Come join us - refreshments provided!



**YOU ... can make the difference at the
Siena/Francis House homeless shelter!**

Siena/Francis House programs can make a big difference in the lives of the homeless and the hungry. You can be part of the difference by supporting our shelter:

- Serving an evening meal
- Special volunteer projects (weekends or evenings)
- Special collections of food, clothing and personal care items



Visit our web site at www.sienafrancis.org to learn more about how you can help. To make a financial gift, please send your check (made payable to Siena/Francis House) to P.O. Box 217 - DTS - Omaha, NE 68101, or make an on-line donation by visiting our secure web site.



Siena/Francis House Homeless Shelter
1702 Nicholas St. • Omaha, NE 68102
402-341-1821

The region's largest shelter providing food, shelter, clothing and hope to homeless men, women and children since 1975

Student editors accuse Bellevue Public Schools of censoring interview

Neither Angela Rolston nor Ron Farr, the co-editors of the Bellevue East High School Tom Tom student newspaper, plan to go into journalism after graduation. Nevertheless, both find themselves in the middle of a dispute with their school administration over the censorship of their work covering the school's salary negotiations.

The primary bone of contention between the students and the school concerns a condensed question-and-answer interview with Bellevue Public Schools Superintendent John Deegan. The interview included questions about federal stimulus funding for special education, which was the Tom Tom's lead story in their November issue, as well as about the misconceptions surrounding the district not using those dollars to pay teachers.

After the students submitted the interview for prior review by the school's principal Brad Stueve, they were given a choice: either publish a heavily edited version of the Q-and-A or pull the story from the newspaper. They went with the latter.

Rolston said she used the Q-and-A format to avoid quoting Deegan out of context, which she said he claimed happened with a quote in the Bellevue Leader: "If I gave you a million dollars, would you immediately give it to all your

help or would you know that you'll need it a year from now?"

That quote was thrown back at Deegan at the Bellevue Board of Education meeting on Nov. 2, when Kevin Cornicowich criticized the board for raising and extending Deegan's compensation packet. His three-year contract has an annual salary of \$208,845 and an annuity of \$45,000 to be awarded during the 2009-10 contract year.

According to her Q-and-A interview, Deegan told Rolston that when using the word "help" to refer to teachers, "I was intending to talk about the Bellevue Leader. I wasn't talking about our teachers. That was an out of context statement. I was not making any reference to Bellevue teachers."

Honestly, that quote might be the most inflammatory remark Deegan made in the interview, with the next closest candidate being, "When you're on a negotiating team, you should always represent the total body, everybody, not just 19 or 20 people at the top or yourself." (Of course, Deegan already told the Bellevue Leader: "There are some people that have been around education a long time that don't care about that stuff, they just care about money in their pockets.")

The students were told the interview would

cause controversy and that it was not suitable for a high school newspaper. They were also told to change an editorial written by Farr insinuating that the Bellevue Board of Education was not listening to the voice of students already and encouraging them to attend the board meetings.

Deegan told the Student Press Law Center, which ran a story about the censorship of the interview, "We're in the middle of negotiations, and we didn't feel it was appropriate during the middle of this legal action."

The Tom Tom is a fairly typical high school newspaper, offering a variety of short news, feature, entertainment, sports and opinion stories targeted at the Bellevue East community. So far this year, it has covered subjects like high school football, recycling, health care, pep rallies, special education and Internet memes.

This year, the Tom Tom has also broached a number of controversial subjects. A two-page spread in the November issue addressed a variety of stories surrounding drugs, and a relatively longer story in the September issue offered refreshingly balanced coverage of the protest in front of the Abortion and Contraception Clinic of Nebraska in Bellevue.

The question-and-answer piece with Deegan, then, did not seem so out of place in the pages of the Tom Tom. "We've already been told before it's just a propaganda piece for the district," Farr said. "We have told them before that we want to cover the good stuff, but we don't want to overshadow the bad stuff either."

In fact, the Bellevue Public Schools administration has come around to saying it would not be out of place in the newspaper, and they will allow it to be published in the paper's December issue — which is expected to go to press next week.

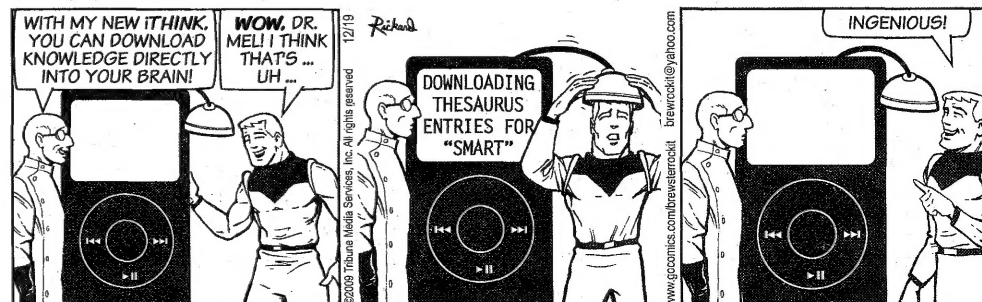
The student editors were told it was OK to run it because the teacher's union and the district have moved into arbitration. "I was kind of like shocked," Rolston said. "It's still kind of like they still censored us, we're still now having to print it an issue late."

She's probably right on that point, as she is right that what the district did still amounts to censorship. They prevented the students from printing quality reporting on an important issue to the school when it would have been timely and relevant to do so.

Sinister Slant



Scott Stewart



CLASSIFIED ADS

NOTICES

Advertising will be rejected that discriminates based on age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, marital status or sexual orientation.

LOST & FOUND

FOR ITEMS LOST AT UNO
Contact Campus Security, EAB 100, 554-2648.

Turned-in items can be claimed by a description and proper identification.

Advertising for items lost or found on the UNO campus will be published free in the Gateway for two weeks. Forms are available at the Office located in Milo Bail 1st Floor.

HELP WANTED

GOT WEBSITE? Need help to market the website. We are looking for a self starting individual to help develop an already going website for part ownership in the company.
www.checkaschedule.com
gmahloch@aol.com

Olive Garden

Hiring for all positions. Especially full & part time servers & hosts. Flexible hours. Competitive pay. Fun work environment. 75th & Dodge and 168th & West Center

Music Instructors Needed! To Teach: Piano-Violin-Voice-Guitar-All Instruments
Evenings/Part Time (4-8pm)
Call Cheri 390-2657

I am looking for a student that knows how to use CAD software so I can produce a prototypes for from a small invention firm. I am looking for self-start and creative individual. 330-5280
gmahloch@aol.com

Looking for a responsible person with own transportation to care for one child in my home M-F. Please call 871-5339 for more information.

ANIMAL CENTER WEST OMAHA

Part time receptionist/ animal caretaker. Will work around class schedule. Must be available to work weekends and holidays.
758-0123

SERVICES

PIANO INSTRUCTION
Experienced, caring teacher with Master's Degree. Children & adults of all ages welcome.
Donna Zebolsky 991-5774.

FOR SALE

House for sale. 6610 Center Street. \$85,000. Raised Ranch. It Features A Big Private Back Yard, Hardwood Floors Under Carpeting And A Brand New Roof. One Year Service One Warranty Included. Possible third bedroom or home office in lower level. Contact Chris Egan at NPDodge 402-330-5008

HOUSING

APTS., HOUSES and sleeping rms. for rent, roommate lists - call UNO off-campus Housing. Referral Service at 554-2383 or stop in the Admin. Office, Milo Bail Student Center.

Furnished apt available spring sem.
University Village
Contact Eric edcurtis@unomaha.edu

Spacious 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms from \$495. GAS HEAT PAID, pet friendly, minutes from UNO. Make Old Mill Apartments your new home! Call 402-498-0800 or stop by 10905 N Mill Court to tour 7 days a week. EHO.

Have a Happy Holidays!
See You Next Year!

